

FRENCH GUESTS OF THE NATION OFF TO CHICAGO

Leave for Ten Day Tour of
Western Cities—Safety
Precautions Taken.

Washington, May 3.—Members of the French commission leave today on a special train for Chicago, the first leg of a tour of the country that will last a week or 10 days. Public authorities in cities and states through which the party will pass have been notified privately by the state department of arrangements for the itinerary, but details will be published in advance for safety's sake. Several experts of the commission will remain here to work out war questions with American officials.

Most of the Frenchmen planned a visit to the house of representatives before their departure today.

Amusements

POLIS

Offering a superb scenic and singing spectacle, the Tyrolean Troubadours, famed throughout the vaudeville world, will come to Polis, the last half of the week, as the feature in a big bill. The Tyrolean troupe is composed of remarkable voices and they have a most artistic arrangement of song numbers. The production is inventive with elaborate scenic equipment, while the costuming is splendid.

Valeska Suratt, whose gowns are the envy of every woman, will be seen in a remarkable picturization of Sir Rider Haggard's great novel, "She." This wonderful photoplay, in five parts, gives Miss Suratt untold opportunities for her many talents. The picture, as usual, will be another interesting scenic attraction.

A snappy comedy playlet entitled "DANNY" will be an added vaudeville feature, presented by a capable company of five. Heider & Packer, favorites with vaudeville lovers, will present their newest line of vaudeville entertainment and are sure of a hearty welcome.

Burke & Harris, a pair of comedians, will parvey patter and songs, and the DeAntonios, in gymnastic dances will complete the big bill.

PLAZA

If you enjoy laughing when there's something really funny to laugh at, don't fail to see George M. Cohan's first screen production, "Broadway Jones," at the Plaza this week. It's a treat. George's vibrant personality is dominant in pictures as on the legitimate stage and he keeps you interested, smiling and happy every moment he is on the screen.

"The Web of Life," starring Hilda Nord, James Cruze and George Soule Spencer, forms the remainder of the program. "The Web of Life" is a five-act dramatic work, cleverly written, splendidly staged and injected with enough thrills to make it appetizing.

The special musical score as rendered by the augmented orchestra is a most pleasing feature of the entertainment.

EMPIRE

Be it in comedy or drama, charming Marie Doro, the brilliant and magnetic Famous Players star is always at her best. This popular little screen star has won her way deep into the hearts of all sorts of toptop audiences. Her characterizations are of the finest ever done by screen stars for the silent drama. Miss Doro, as it is well known, came to the screen after a number of years on the speaking stage, where she appeared in some of the finest dramas and comedies ever presented to the theatre going public. Her first screen success at once stamped her not only a stage star supreme but a screen star par excellence. In the latest five part Famous Players-Paramount master play, "Heart's Desire," in which she will be seen at the Empire theatre tomorrow and Saturday, this vivacious girl portrays the role of a little peasant girl who through her courteous manners wins love and happiness. It is one of those different plays that just grip and hold your attention throughout. This evening's program is headed by the seventeenth chapter of the Metro \$1,000,000, super serial, "The Great Secret," in which is featured those two ever popular screen stars, Francis Bushman and Beverly Bayne, and the latest five part Metro wonderplay, "A Magdalene of the Hills," featuring Mabel Taliaferro and an all star cast.

FERDINANDO DANCE ORCHESTRA TONIGHT

[That] this organization took the dance-lovers of this city by storm is putting it mildly. Coming to Colonial hall as it did about a week ago unknown many young people were skeptical about it being able to put out the music it claimed, but when they attended the dance and heard this wonderful organization playing all reed instruments and featuring saxophones and banjo quartets, then they all once opened their eyes and immediately passed the verdict that the Ferdinando Brothers Dance Orchestra was the real dance orchestra of the season and to dance to its music was a real treat.

This organization plays a return engagement at Colonial hall tonight and those who failed to attend this affair before will look forward to the dance tonight with eagerness as it is the music that has won approval all through New England. No singing, no cutting up—just playing of instruments as only musicians of ability can. Dance a fox trot to the banjo quartets or a one step—then try the waltz to the saxophone quartet. You don't have to be a dancing master to dance to this music; its wonderful time and harmony just brings you right along. Concert from 8:30 to 9 and dancing to midnight. Tickets are 50c at the door the night of the dance.

Army headquarters of Chicago announce that the Wyoming department of the army has been changed to the western department at San Francisco.

TAXATION CASES WILL BE TRIED BY JUDGE BANKS

Referee Will Hold Hearings
As Committee of Superior Court

Redding May 3.—The superior court has appointed John W. Banks of Bridgeport, U. S. referee in bankruptcy, a committee to hear the tax suits brought against this town by L. O. Peck, his wife and Commodore Laughton. By arrangement agreed upon by all parties the cases will be tried in Redding and the hearings are expected to begin about a month hence, probably at the town house. There are four of these suits, two on behalf of Laura E. Peck and one by each of the other plaintiffs. So far not much in the way of preparations appears to have been done by either side. The plaintiffs will bring evidence designed to show that the assessment valuations of which they complain are inequitable to them because disproportionately higher than the valuations on a large part of the other town property. Necessarily the defense must attempt a general justification of the official valuations. Whether they will rely solely on the assessors and board of relief members in their endeavor to fortify their opinions by the evidence of other witnesses classed as experts will be determined by the town's counsel who are Charles Lockwood and S. C. Shaw. In any event the hearings must be lengthy, involving as they will a detailed and searching review of two grand lists. The plaintiffs were represented by Attorney Bowers of Bridgeport.

J. B. Sanford has been appointed local representative of the state body which is conducting a campaign for an enlarged planting of food crops and has named as his associates E. A. Pinkney, George Elston, Jr., C. H. Plump, A. G. Barnett, W. C. Sanford, Rev. W. S. Woolworth, L. S. Warner, Herman Smith and J. B. Sanford, Jr. An extensive distribution of the literature prepared to aid in the campaign and comprising leaflets giving instructions for potato growing and small garden plantings is being made by the committee. There is another document for the pledging of labor aid to the movement, declaring the wish to join a canning club and making agreement to increase over last year the acreage devoted to food crops production. C. H. Plump is the local agent to place applications from those who desire to obtain loans for the purchase of seeds and fertilizers. The applicant need provide no security as a basis for such loans beyond showing his general good standing and the necessity for increased means to carry out his planting projects.

One of the water company's patrol of the name of Reilly was thrown violently from his mount one day last week as the result of his horse coming a cropper in jumping a ditch. Reilly, the former Ridge place at Jump Hill, experienced last Saturday evening. The hill was the one leading from the center towards the Ridge. Near the bottom the wagon went over the edge of a bank and was upset, a good part of the load and Reilly were thrown off. Mr. Pinkney maintained his perch to the last and, although tossed a rod or more landed clear of the stone wall and was but slightly hurt. One of the horses was disabled, but will probably recover.

The union service held at the Center Congregational church last Saturday evening in the interest of the rural T. M. C. A. movement was fairly well attended. Rev. Mr. Case of the Methodist church offered prayer. Rev. Mr. Woolworth preached the sermon and his son, who is a student in the Union Theological Seminary, made an address explanatory of the work. No specific action was taken towards the establishment of a local branch. The committee in charge of the project for a public flag raising at the Center are having some difficulty in finding a suitable pole. A ship mast was the first proposition, but the cost proved to be almost prohibitive and so a search of the woods hereabouts was made for a native stick. A white-wood tree on the farm of B. B. Banks is the most promising material yet discovered.

In a narrow stretch of road above the Livermore place Ralph Rockwell last Thursday met another car driven by a man named Nathan and slowing up, drew aside to give it room to pass. The other man swerved so much that his car ran upon the shelving ledge at that point and toppled over upon Mr. Rockwell's car. It was queer and unpleasant situation, but the machines were finally separated without any particular damage having resulted.

A water company representative called upon Robert H. Nichols a few days since and offered him \$30 an acre for about fifteen acres located east of the Ridge school house. Mr. Nichols refused to sell for less than \$50 an acre and there the parley closed. A last summer he nearly made a sale of the same tract for about \$1,500, the prospective purchaser backing when the deal seemed as good as closed.

An unfastened back door of the vacant Glister cottage on the Ridge, this condition being caused by the displacement of two staples which secured the inside bolt, and some disorder among the contents of the house led to the conclusion that a burglar entry had been made. As far as learned, however, nothing had been taken. The discovery was made last Saturday in connection with a visit from New York of Mr. and Mrs. Litchfield. The latter is the owner of the property and will occupy it this summer.

From a large bin of potatoes in the cellar of D. S. Sanford's tenement house his help recently bagged up a lot of the rare and costly tubers in preparation for planting. On their next visit an audit showed that several bags were missing. Truly tragic

as the loss may be for the owner the purloiners may truly plead that their provocation was great.

Many local dog owners will this year have to pay the extra dollar license fee if they would lawfully retain their pets. Last year the last day of grace passed with a registration of a little more than a 100.

A dance which drew a crowded assemblage was given at Miller's hall in Georgetown last Friday evening for the benefit of the village ball team. The net proceeds were upwards of \$50.

A contract has been taken by H. Sanford Osborn from Jordan & Selbeck to construct about a mile and a half of roadway through the tract in Stratfield which they are developing for building lots. Mr. Osborn began work this week on his \$15,000 state road job in Stratfield.

Pledge blanks are now ready for volunteers in the Connecticut Agricultural army.

For the town of Redding, the Connecticut Committee of Food Supply has appointed Jonathan B. Sanford local agent, and he has arranged for putting the pledge blanks in places where any and all who will sign them may obtain them without difficulty.

The Connecticut Committee of Food Supply, in preparing its plan whereby the crop production of the state is to be increased this summer to hitherto unthought-of proportions, has made the individual towns and cities the units by which it will do its work. Pledge blanks are to be found in places where they are available for all who want them. These are to be filled in under any of five sub-divisions: food production, planting home gardens, labor, home canning and garden supervisors, and returned to the town clerk, who will forward them to the state committee headquarters in Hartford.

Residents of the town of Redding may get pledge blanks from any of the following places: E. P. Sanford, West Redding; John Munenich, Redding Ridge; Charles Perry, Redding Ridge; Connelly Bros., Georgetown; Town Clerk's office, Redding Center. There will be held at the Center Methodist church next Monday evening a special service in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the American Sunday School Union. Their Congregational brethren of the Center have been invited to participate.

Mr. Gustafson of Georgetown, who took a course at the State Agricultural college and was later connected with the college farm at Georgetown, has been engaged by D. S. Sanford as farm foreman.

Benjamin Field of West Redding and recently working at his trade of carpenter in Bridgeport has enlisted in the Coast Artillery.

E. A. Pinkney is improving his residence at Georgetown by an enclosing piazza, a part of which will be glassed for a sun parlor.

A tractor is being used by the Bridgeport Hydraulic company for plowing on the former Craik farm and other land owned by them in Easton. It is equipped with a headlight so that it can be worked nights.

Miss Belle Sanford has again rented for the season her residence on the Ridge to Miss Margaret Dunnell of New York.

A communion service will be held next Sunday morning at the Center Congregational church which date also marks the second anniversary of Rev. W. S. Woolworth as the church's pastor.

Recent arrivals from the city at their summer homes in town are: Charles Ives and family, Umpawaug; H. W. Kilbourne, Glen; R. A. Osmon, Center; Misses Waterman and Fox, Pleasant Valley.

State election systems will do the work under supervision of the federal government, the voting precincts being the units for actual recording of the men.

Registration cards have been distributed by the census bureau to masters of many cities and towns, and the most remote sections will be supplied before the registration day to be set by Presidential proclamation after the army bill has been signed. A period of 15 days will intervene, probably, between the issue of the call and the opening of the registration. Five days will be allowed to complete registration, and within 30 days the completed roll will be in Washington.

Failure of Process. Failure of an electric process of pasteurizing milk to supersede the old method, is one of the causes assigned by counsel for the financial difficulties of The Purity Milk and Cream Company of Stamford. In the United States District Court at Hartford Thursday, a petition in bankruptcy was filed by counsel for the company.

Convicted of Grand Larceny. A jury in the County Court at White Plains, on Thursday afternoon, returned a verdict of guilty against Lucius B. Norton, of Southport, indicted for grand larceny in the first degree.

Crushed by Truck. Joseph Franzo, a laborer was fatally crushed at Stamford Thursday afternoon, by a two-ton motor truck. Franzo attempted to board the truck while it was in motion. He fell beneath one of the rear wheels. The wheel passed across his abdomen.

General Maude reported that the Sultan's 12th corps of Turkey was driven by the British from its position on both banks of the Shatt-el-Adhem.

AMUSEMENTS

LYRIC

A REAL HIT

TO-DAY
Matinee & Evening

LYRIC PLAYERS

IN
Hit-The-Trail
HOLLIDAY

BY GEO. M. COHAN

LEO KENNEDY

—AS—

BILLY HOLLIDAY

NEXT WEEK

"The Savage"
A NEW PLAY—FIRST
TIME ON ANY
STAGE

AN ALL FEATURE SELECT
PROGRAM HEADED BY

Mabel Taliaferro

In The Metro Wonder-Play

"A MAGDALENE
OF THE HILLS"

—AND—
FRANCIS
BUSHMAN &
BEVERLY
BAYNE

In The 17th Chapter of

"The Great Secret"

WILL BE SEEN AT

Empire Theatre

TO-DAY

Famous Players-Paramount Play

MARIE DORO

IN

"HEART'S DESIRE"

WILL BE FEATURED TO-MORROW
AND SATURDAY.

PARK

3 Days Com. Thur. May 3.

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OF BURLESQUE

SAM SIDMAN

And His Big Show With the

International Chorus

NOTED FOR BEAUTY YOUTH
AND MELODY

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EDISON TALKING MACHINE COM-
PANIES.

Henry Burr, Albert Campbell, B. G.
Harlow, and Billy Murray, Tenors.
Arthur Collins, Baritone.
John M. Meyer, Bass.
Vess L. Ossman, Banjo.
Theodore Morse, Accompanist.

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AMUSEMENTS

PLAZA

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DOUBLE-FEATURE
PROGRAMME

GEO. M.
COHAN

IN
"BROADWAY
JONES"

ALSO

HILDA NORD, JAMES

CRUZE AND GEORGE

SOULE SPENCER

IN

"THE WEB
OF LIFE"

IN 5 ACTS

AUGMENTED

ORCHESTRA

3 SHOWS DAILY

2-6:15-8:30

AFES 10-15c

EVES 20-15-25c

LECTURE

ON

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BY

George Shaw Cook, C. S. B.

Member of the Board of Lectureship

of The Mother Church, The First

Church of Christ, Scientist, in Bos-

ton, Mass.

LYRIC THEATRE

Sunday, May 6, 3 P. M.

ADMISSION FREE

R 3 *

The New York Senate killed the

Wagner bills prohibiting the use of

the Croton watershed for present or

future state institutions.

Rene Seitz, a 19-year-old French

aviator, escaped from a German prison

camp at Lechfeld, Bavaria.

AMUSEMENTS

Polis

FEATURE PHOTO-PLAYS

3 SHOWS DAILY, 1:45, 6 & 8:30; MATS. 10c, 15c; EVES. 10c, 15c, 25c

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THE MOST BEAUTIFULLY GOWNED STAR OF THE SCREEN

VALESKA SURATT

In a Five-Part

Picturization of

Sir Rider Hag-

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A Wonderful

Film Drama Pro-

duced by a Great

Cast

A Comedy Playlet "DANNY"

that you'll like.

Heider & Packer

VAUDEVILLE'S

VERSATILE

STARS

Burke &

Harris

In Songs and Dances

The Two

De Antontios

In Gymnastic Dances

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Bargain Matinee Wednesday

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and it's a wise wife that is prepared for unex-
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